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REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 9, 11, 15 and 17.

Applicant greatly appreciates the allowance of claims 1-8, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 19/1-8, 19/10, 19/12-14, 19/18, 20 and 21 by the Examiner. In addition, Applicant appreciates the Examiner suggestion for amending claims 9, 11, 15 and 17 to place these claims in condition for allowance.

Claims 9, 11, 19/9, 19/10, and 19/11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 102(e) as being anticipated by Bauer et al. (WO 00/25423 and U.S. 6,420,946). And claims 15, 17, 19/15 and 19/17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bauer et al. in view of Nakazawa et al. (JP 11-09796).

Applicant has amended claims 9, 11, 15 and 17, as suggested by the Examiner, to place these claims in condition for allowance as indicated by the Examiner. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art rejections of claims 9, 11, 19/9, 19/10, and 19/11 and claims 15, 17, 19/15 and 19/17 are moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-21 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions the Commissioner for a Two-month extension of time, extending to October 20, 2003, the period for response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2003.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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